

The generic names of the British Phytophaga (Coleoptera) explained

<i>Macrolea</i>	long swimmer. The simple <i>Plea</i> is found among the water bugs (Heteroptera)
<i>Donacia</i>	from <i>donax</i> . 'a reed', with which several of the species are associated
<i>Plateumaris</i>	an Asiatic shoe or slipper (<i>eumaris</i>), compounded with <i>platys</i> 'broad', from the somewhat dilated tarsi.
<i>Orsodacne</i>	'with bitten rump' (excised pygidium), but no such feature seems visible
<i>Zeugophora</i>	yoke-bearing, from impression on pronotum (plus a vivid imagination)
<i>Lema</i>	a difficult name, the few possibilities having no clear- entomological bearing
<i>Oulema</i>	'not Lema', to emphasise distinction from last
<i>Crioceris</i>	ram's horn, though the resemblance is problematic
<i>Lilioceris</i>	literally 'lily horn' (showing the absurdity of names formed by incautious analogy)
<i>Labidostomis</i>	pincer*-mouth (.cf. <i>Labidura</i> 'pincer-tails', an carwig genus)
<i>Clytra</i>	nothing satisfactory suggests itself
<i>Gynaudrophthalma</i>	'female-male eye', whatever that may mean
<i>Cryptocephalus</i>	hidden head (a far more apt name)
<i>Lamprosoma</i>	shining or bright body
<i>Adoxus</i>	inglorious, from its sombre appearance
<i>Timarcha</i>	a timarch or honorable ruler as opposed to a tyrant
<i>Chrysolina</i>	golden <i>Lina</i> (see next)
<i>Chrysomela</i>	golden apple (its restriction to the old genus <i>Lina</i> is recent)
<i>Plagioder</i>	having the 'neck', i. e., pronotum, oblique or sloping
<i>Gastrophysa</i>	with inflated abdomen (gaster), a feature often found in this genus
<i>Phaedon</i>	From a root meaning bright, shining
<i>Hydrothassa</i>	sitting (beside) water; i. e., living on waterside plants
<i>Prasocuris</i>	a grub that destroys leeks (<i>prasa</i>) mentioned by Aristotle
<i>Phytodecta</i>	'plant biter'
<i>Phyllodecta</i>	leaf biter
<i>Galerucella</i>	diminutive of next
<i>Galeruca</i>	Greek <i>galeros</i> 'cheerful' and Latin <i>eruca</i> 'caterpillar' (!)
<i>Pyrhalta</i>	red or reddish leaper (cf. <i>Altica</i>) but there is no power of leaping
<i>Phyllobrotica</i>	feeding on leaves or foliage
<i>Lochmaea</i>	frequenting woods or copses
<i>Luperus</i>	painful, distressing, from the generally sombre colouring
<i>Calomicrus</i>	beautiful (but) small
<i>Agelastica</i>	not laughing, grave or perhaps sullen, with reference to dark colour
<i>Sermylassa</i>	arbitrary extension of <i>Sermyla</i> , an invented name
<i>Phyllotreta</i>	boring through or perforating leaves
<i>Aplulhona</i>	without envy or malice – application fanciful
<i>Longitarsus</i>	long foot, from the elongate hind basitarsus
<i>Altica</i>	properly <i>Halica</i> 'able, or tending, to leap' (though these relatively large species in fact exhibit the power only weakly)
<i>Hermaeophaga</i>	'eating the plant mercury' (Hermes corresponds to Mercury)
<i>Batophila</i>	berry-loving. (<i>B. rubi</i> lives on blackberry)
<i>Lythraria</i>	from <i>Lythrum salicaria</i> , the foodplant
<i>Ochrois</i>	'a yellowing': our species, <i>O. ventralis</i> , is a yellowish beetle
<i>Crepidodera</i>	'shoe neck', from the shape of the pronotal impression
<i>Derocrepis</i>	the same, with the two elements reversed
<i>Hippuriphila</i>	'loving horse-tail', the foodplant
<i>Chalcoides</i>	appearing like bronze
<i>Epitrix</i>	best rendered 'hairy surface'. Pubescence is unusual in a halticine
<i>Podagrica</i>	afflicted with gout
<i>Mantura</i>	obscure, but second element <i>ags(-ura)</i> is 'tail'
<i>Chaetocnema</i>	'bristle shin' from the tibial seta
<i>Sphaeroderma</i>	'spherical form' (though derma is properly 'skin')
<i>Apteropeda</i>	'wingless foot': Redtenbacher's intention here is hardly clear
<i>Mniophila</i>	moss-loving (c.f., the species-name <i>muscorum</i> ; <i>mniion</i> = moss)
<i>Dibolia</i>	first element 'two'; second hardly clear
<i>Psylliodes</i>	flea-like
<i>Pilemostoma</i>	'felt mouth': application hardly clear
<i>Cassida</i>	a helmet, from the peculiar form

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